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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Hiroaki MASUYAMA et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**  
Serial No. 10/575,357 : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0457A  
Filed April 11, 2006 :  
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Filed October 13, 2004]

**ASSERTION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS AND REQUEST FOR REFUND**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

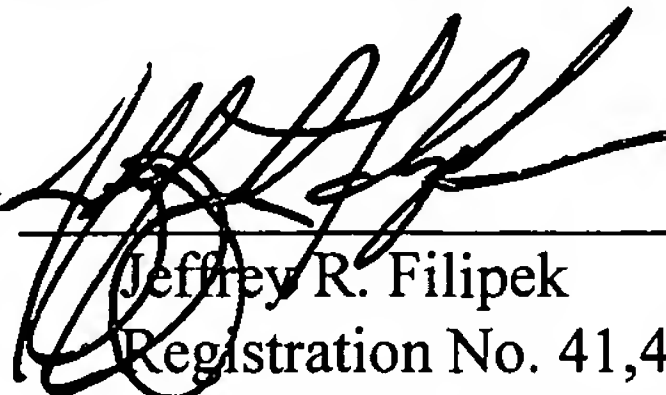
Small entity status is hereby asserted.

The assertion of small entity status should have been made in the initial filing of the above-identified application. However, the large entity fees were incorrectly paid. The amount of large entity fees to which the small entity reduction is applicable (i.e., the filing fees other than the assignment recordation fee) is \$5000. Therefore, the amount of overpayment as a result of paying large entity fees is \$2500. Therefore, Applicants hereby request a refund in the amount of \$2500.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroaki MASUYAMA et al.

By

  
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